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reddit PeterExplainsTheJoke comments dude_don-exil-em (24,589) | 456 | | | preferences | logo

Your account has been suspended from Reddit for 2 days.

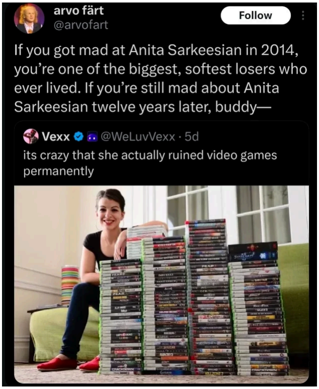
9317

Who is she? And how and why she ruined video games?

Meme needing explanation (i.redd.it)

submitted 3 days ago by dude_don-exil-em

2492 comments share unsave hide delete nsfw spoiler flair



arvo färt
@arvofart
Follow

If you got mad at Anita Sarkeesian in 2014, you're one of the biggest, softest losers who ever lived. If you're still mad about Anita Sarkeesian twelve years later, buddy—

Vexx @WeLuvVexx · 5d
its crazy that she actually ruined video games permanently

Is this a gamergate thing? I really don't know much about it or why it' was a thing in the first place , as far i was some angry game (with capital G) were mad because games are going woke or something

top 200 comments show 500

sorted by: top (suggested) disable inbox replies (?)

save content policy formatting help

[–] **qualityvote2** [M] [score hidden] 3 days ago* - stickied comment

u/dude_don-exil-em, your post does belong here!

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[–] **Zoegrace1** 5627 points 3 days ago

Anita Sarkeesian made a series of videos applying feminist critique to some video games, and responses to it kick-started Gamergate and all the shit that came from that

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> [–] [deleted] 3 days ago
>
> [removed]
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>> [–] [deleted] 3 days ago
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>> [removed]
>>
>>> [–] [deleted] 3 days ago
>>>
>>> [removed]
>>>
>>>> [–] **motorboatmycheeks** 271 points 3 days ago
>>>>
>>>> Can you narrow that down?
>>>>
>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>
>>>>> [–] **Connwaer** 731 points 3 days ago
>>>>>
>>>>> I believe it's Milo Yiannopoulos
>>>>>
>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>
>>>>>> [–] **MaximumGlum9503** 257 points 3 days ago
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Isn't he selling Christian statues now
>>>>>>
>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> [–] **Connwaer** 249 points 3 days ago
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> OMG is he?? I stopped keeping up with him after Berkeley when it became clear he was just fighting for relevance after the far-right decided they had no use for him anymore. I know he's an "ex-gay" Catholic Fascist but that's all
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> [–] **GreatEntrepreneur798** 118 points 3 days ago
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> Last time I saw anything of his I'm pretty sure he showed up an hour late to a debate, partialy because he had to 'powder his nose' in the bathroom beforehand, only to embarass himself for the next . I'm pretty sure he was already ex gay, still livig with his 'ex' boyfriend tho....
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> [–] **Connwaer** 169 points 3 days ago
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> He's ex gay in the same way Nick Fuentes is straight. He's not.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> continue this thread ⟶
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> load more comments (5 replies)
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> [–] **MrMetraGnome** 39 points 2 days ago
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> They all grift to Christ eventually.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> [–] **Photomancer** 74 points 2 days ago
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> Becoming loudly religious is the finest moral high ground you can have because it requires no qualifications, no history of good deeds, and you don't need to base your goodness on anything: Goodness derives from the claim itself. These people are the true virtue signalers.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> I don't fundamentally disbelieve that a person can be contrite or change. But there are so many lizard-brained narcissists and cheaters without empathy out there that follow this playbook without authenticity that I don't blame someone at all if they don't buy it.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> In any case, I find public spirituality to be suspicious. I can see a benefit in personal relationship with ethics and in mutually supporting a community, but strutting around saying "Look at me" makes one a weirdo.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> continue this thread ⟶
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> load more comments (3 replies)
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> load more comments (14 replies)
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> [–] **BlommeHolm** 12 points 2 days ago
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> He's in the born-again ex-gay grift now, yes.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>>>>>
>>>>>> load more comments (14 replies)
>>>>>
>>>>>> [–] **BlizzardWolfPK** 43 points 3 days ago
>>>>>>
>>>>>> A nice fact to remember: After Milo got punched in the face on camera, he disappeared for 10 years until like, just recently. Bro's whole tough guy facade broke and he had to hide for a decade to hope people would forget.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> permalink embed save parent report reply

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this post was submitted on 23 Jul 2026

9,317 points (87% upvoted)

shortlink: `https://redd.it/1v41bdn`

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PeterExplainsTheJoke

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☑ Show my flair on this subreddit. It looks like: dude_don-exil-em

The subreddit for honoring our hero u/PeterExplainsTheJoke whenever we don't understand it.

SUBREDDIT RULES:

Rule 1: Poor Behavior

This sub has a zero tolerance policy against bigotry (racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia etc) of any sort. Slurs or extreme insults are not okay. No toxicity or arguing eithe - this is meant to be a fun community. Just be excellent to each other.

Rule 2: Recently posted jokes

If you see a recent post containing the joke you want explained, use that to find the punchline instead. Simple as that.

We define "recently posted joke" as anything that's been posted within the last three months.

Overused memes such as Loss and unedited Stonetoss comics are banned.

Rule 3: Dogwhistles/Conspiracy Theories

We have a zero tolerance policy for dogwhistling of any kind. Dogwhistling are bigoted terms only people in that bigoted group would understand (Ex. 88 for Heil Hitler.) If the punchline of a joke is something bigoted the post will be removed for dogwhistling.

Try not to spread conspiracy theories either (pandemic denial, genocide apologism, etc).

Intentionally posting content with the goal of spreading bigotry or conspiracy theories will result in a ban.

Rule 4: Political Shilling / Debating

Political posts ARE allowed so long as they are jokes that need to be explained and are posted in good-faith. This is NOT a debate sub. Do not argue politics in the comments.

Rule 5: 'Wooooshing' users

An obvious punchline to you isn't necessarily obvious to others. This is a community for everyone to have jokes explained without judgment - try not to be rude.

If you have a history of whooshing here you will be banned.

Posts or memes whooshing users will result in a immediate ban.

Rule 6: Low effort posts

If your post doesn't contain a joke needing explanation, it'll be removed.

You need to reply to the AutoMod comment with your best guess on what a meme means. If you don't reply with your best guess your post will b removed.

Overall poor quality post will be removed.

If the content of the meme can be easily Google the post will be removed.

If a joke is explained in the original thread being crossposted it will be removed.

Rule 7: Banned Jokes

The following things are banned:

- Unedited Stonetoss comics
- Loss memes
- Man vs Bear memes
- Jokes found in the stickied thread

These posts have become *extremely* repetitive and many of them incite vitriolic responses. If w add new things to this list, we will update it with a sticky post.

Rule 8: Metaposts

Metaposts are allowed if in a joke format and relevant. Non-joke or irrelevant metaposts will be removed.

This rule does not apply to "weird pictures of Peter." Those are fine.

Rule 9: No bots, spam, machine generated content, or karmafarming

Content posted by bots and spammers will be removed.

Machine generated content created by LLMs suc as ChatGPT etc. will be removed.

Karmafarming is not allowed here. If we suspect your account of karmafarming it will be remove

Posting jokes you already understood or any OC's like self-made memes and comics will be counted as spam and removed.

Violating this rule could result in an immediate permanent ban.

created by Da_Taternater78 peters sidekick

a community for 7 yea

MODERATORS

MESSAGE THE MODS

olive12108 Mod
PeterExplainsTheJoke The Man Himself
KakyoinExplainsIt Kakyoin
Larkeyyy Largayyy
THEpeterafro
Ponjos Mod
JollierYT
kyleparker134
ThePlayerCard
starlight_collector Mod

...and 16 more

account activity

[–] **Francis_J_Eva** 75 points 3 days ago

Milo was never punched in the face on camera. You're mixing him up with Richard Spencer. What actually happened was at the apex of his popularity in early 2017, some comments he made about the age of consent on a podcast came back to bite him. This was a time when conservatives still felt slightly squeamish about that sort of thing (at least publicly) so Milo was dropped by every major organisation that had backed him and disappeared for years. The thing is, he'd outlived his usefulness. Token minorities always have a limited shelf life and once Trump was elected, Bannon and Co. didn't need him anymore.

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[–] **BlizzardWolfPK** 22 points 2 days ago

Man there's too many of these losers to keep track of and too little braincells left in my brain...

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load more comments (6 replies)

[–] **irritatedprostate** 59 points 3 days ago

Tough guy facade? Milo? He was a full on queen.

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load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **xMaNrEbOrN7851** 35 points 3 days ago

Wait...people saw him and thought he was a tough guy??? Were they blind people???

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[–] **ProfNugget** 21 points 2 days ago

People seem to mistake loud and hateful with "tough guy". Trump would be in the same category.

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load more comments (3 replies)

[–] **papercutsperfume** 25 points 3 days ago

When did Milo get punched in the face? Are you confusing him with Richard Spencer?

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[–] **WinstonDaPuggy98** 23 points 3 days ago

Didn't he get fired from Breitbart for saying the age of consent should be 13 but only for guy on guy sex?

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load more comments (21 replies)

[–] **Nohreboh** 164 points 3 days ago

For a bit of context as not everyone is familiar with 4chan and how it was used by Bannon/Epstein.

https://www.garbageday.email/p/here-s-how-epstein-broke-the-internet

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[–] **Spirited_Error1849** 57 points 3 days ago

That was a horrifyingly fascinating read…I had no idea.

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[–] **Careful-Sell-9877** 65 points 3 days ago

It has truly been bizarre watching, over the course of the last decade or so, corporate/ultra-wealthy interests literally take over peoples minds via the internet using far right, hate/fear/emotion/insecurity based propaganda and influence campaigns.. shaping the younger generations minds in such a way that will allow them to sieze power for themselves permanently and cement the US as a fully oligarchic/authoritarian state where they finally have complete control with no government oversight/accountability/regulation, etc.

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[–] **Vampire_Queen_Joaje** 58 points 3 days ago

People would talk shit about shows like Captain Planet for making its villains too blatantly evil, but honestly? They kinda toned it down from reality

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[–] **Careful-Sell-9877** 27 points 3 days ago

Genuinely. And often when you call these guys out, some people will say something like 'oh what, you think hes like a cartoon/movie supervillain or something??' ....yes...where do you think these movies/shows got the idea for these characters in the first place?? The villains arent imaginary - theyre very real.. its the heros that are imagined, unfortunately. In real life, its not individual superheros who gets things done and save the day.. it's groups of people working together to fight, in whatever small ways they can, to resist these literal supervillains. We need to come together and resist it now, more than ever before..

What's happening now is some literal star wars type shit.. the empire vs the rebels.

Every person alive should watch this. This is who we are up against, and this is their plan - in their own words!

https://youtu.be/5RpPTRcz1no

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load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **Charlaquin** 21 points 3 days ago

Captain Planet specifically isn't the best example, because it was a pet project of Ted Turner - one of the evil rich assholes - and apart from Plunder, most of its villains were blue-collar workers. It tried to paint *industry* rather than *capital* as the root cause of environmental destruction, and proposed individual consumer responsibility rather than government regulation as the solution.

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[–] **Nohreboh** 13 points 3 days ago

Yep and it's ongoing in one form or another since Epstein was only one cog in the machine.

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[–] **Fade_Out-4612** 15 points 3 days ago

Peter Thiel is the next in line, although the not so fun fact here is that the difference is that Epstein was an eugenicist, Thiel is a "technofeudalist", aka wants to turn the working class into mindless cyborgs who generate profits without asking for rights from their nerd overlords!!!

A message from him already got leaked confirming he does in fact hold "billionaire parties"

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load more comments (10 replies)

[–] **dude_don-exil-em** [S] 59 points 3 days ago

it is just stupid how people don't realize that. Like you have q anon telling people that trump was chosen from God to fight the woke satanic leftist elites and people believed it

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[–] **Acceptable_Bat379** 52 points 3 days ago

dude the qanon people are still going. STILL GOING. disclosure will happen ANY DAY NOW

Gamergate seriously started a lot of this manosphere nonsense and conservative antiwoke culture wars online. I'm pretty sure many of the right wing influencers are still being paid. They've also heavily taken over the alien and cryptid spaces, and conspiracy forums.

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[–] **Blank_Canvas21** 128 points 3 days ago

Really made Steve Bannon's career. Went from basement dwelling incel farming gold on WoW to imcel Karl Rove.

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[–] **Realistic_Ad_5321** 14 points 2 days ago

Holy shit you're basically spot on... Incel version of Karl Rove.

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[–] **conartist19** 40 points 3 days ago*

well that does leave out the massive part that gamergate was about games journalists getting caught sleeping with developers and giving them better reviews because of it. The fake version the media pushed was the hatred of women, the real version was the lack of ethics edit: What kicked off gamergate was an ex boyfriend accusing zoe quinn of sleeping with a journalist for good reviews. The journalist in question never reviewed any of her games but the claim that she was sleeping with him was not disproven. Him not reviewing her games is not a defense of the lack of ethics because it ignores the impact he could still have had on the people around him that were reviewing. It also lead to grander point that people finally realized that gaming journalists were not some independent group and were personally connected with the developers they were supposed to be reviewing. From free hotels, sleeping with each other, losing access to future early releases if you didnt give positive reviews, etc...there were a lot of issues in the industry that were pointed out through gamergate. I dont think anyone would deny the crazy people that took it too far with their harassment but the harassment is all the journalists showed because it absolved them while ignoring how entangled the industries had become/what made those people so upset in the first place. A decade later we see games like mixtape getting a 10/10 from IGN and it would seem the gamers were right about how unethical the industry had become. No one cares if the reviewer subjectively liked a game when the game in question lacks any objective qualities of a good game(I personally love the jurassic park/world movies because I like dinosaurs but I can admit they are not objectively good movies. Personal taste and objective quality are not the same thing) None of the claims about favoritism and reviewers astroturfing terrible games were disproven, it was just argued gamers were too mean about voicing their displeasure over it. If you think all of it boiled down to sexism then youre a part of the problem and why the industry has objectively dropped in quality over the last decade

You can latch onto the reviewer not reviewing the games of the developer he was sleeping with all you want but that doesnt disprove that companies have been paying reviewers for good reviews, giving them expensive perks like free hotel rooms, restricting future early access to games if they dont give good reviews, etc....10 out of 100 claims being wrong doesnt mean the other 90 valid complaints suddenly didnt exist anymore but bad faith actors will pretend all of those valid claims dont exist because they dont want to engage with all the issues present. Its so much easier to believe the vocal minority the went after quinn/other devs were just evil misogynists than face the rot in the industry that has taken over

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[–] **Grunn84** 98 points 2 days ago*

But that accusation was a lie and no one wanted to look very deep.

If your movement about "ethics in journalism" cant be bothered to Google if this supposed review actually exists and mysteriously only attacks feminists and their allies not corperate corruption then I think it might just have been a smokescreen to attack women...

"Fake media" and "fake news" was a smokescreen in 2016 and 2026 alike.

Edit: just for clarity it was one woman accused by her ex-boyfriend of sleeping with someone for a review, which leaves out that said review didn't exist (iirc he gave her game a mention in an article on indie games) and the game was free.

On the back of this highly dubious accusation a totally genuine campaign of people who had slept through years of publishers openly paying for reviews were suddenly concern about ethics was mobilised to harass any woman they could find in the games industry.

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[–] **jacquix** 21 points 2 days ago

There were some valid points to be made about industry corruption, like reviewers being invited to luxury hotels for a whole weekend, to playtest a game for 2 hours. But if people base their "movement" on a literal situation of "woman had sex, ex-boyfriend gets mad", they shouldn't be surprised nobody took it seriously outside of their bubble.

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[–] **RC_Colada** 60 points 2 days ago

That was completely fabricated. You're referencing Zoe Quinn, who had a psychotic ex boyfriend that posted a diatribe against her on a website and gamer boys were all to ready to send her death threats and try to harass her into killing herself.

Turns out, there was no review of her game.

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[–] **spaceandthewoods_** 65 points 2 days ago

But the original claim that kick-started ganergate, that Zoe Quinn slept with a journalist for a good review, was and always has been a *total lie.*

If you have any actual evidence that any journos and Devs slept together resulting in a good review, please share it.

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[–] **Corgis_Butts** 50 points 3 days ago*

Yeah... cause the main narrative everywhere was pushing the story that it was about anti woman in gaming. It's still the massive pain point that people get wrong due to how wide spread the journalists tried to throw cover.

Was legit gamers versus journalists cause journalists were nepo hires and backed each other. Now suddenly it's all about hating women and not wanting women in gaming. No one gave a shit about that. It started when Quinn got called out for stuff she did which steam rolled into nepo game journalists. It exposed how corrupted game journalists were.

Every time gamergate comes up, it's just the journos' side and never the actual core reason gamergate was a thing.

Edit: for people asking 'proof', have you checked where YOUR proof was coming from? It's kind of hard to get the proof you want when everything referenced is FROM the journos. THAT WAS THE ISSUE. Journalistic integrity. The core of it was that gamers could not trust journalists due to how corrupt it was when exposed cause they changed narratives and threw cover. Main stream media then bit on that and THAT became the main narrative.

Proof askers will never accept the first hand accounts, never accept the archived forum posts, never accept vid docs of people who were actually there arguing the point. They will reference the hundreds of articles WRITTEN BY THE JOURNALISTS. Everything since then is skewed. That's like going to a dictator asking about persecution and he says nope never happened so you accept it. Meanwhile he has all the news media locked down and the guy on the street screaming help is ignored.

Barring that, BOTH could be true. Your 'misogyny in gaming' (dev teams yeah I get cause stuff came out but not the anti-woman in gaming cause gamers don't give a shit, some of the best games came out under direction of women leads) AND journalists being corrupt, lacking journalistic integrity. If you're talking about scantily clad women and why that's bad in gaming, go do that to EVERY OTHER MEDIUM TOO. Sex sells. It's why it's been used in marketing forever. If ya don't want it, go be Amish. They live a good lifestyle that's not connected to this horseshit.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **PiousStag** 33 points 3 days ago

There's no point trying to explain in the eyes of most Reddit users it's been settled as just people hate women and anyone who wasn't active or around then only has only sources that reinforce that world view available.

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[–] **Top_Mongoose1354** 16 points 2 days ago

Is it that big of a surprise that 99% of redditors listen blindly to journalists, even though modern journalists aren't actually doing *journalism* but rather attempting to control opinions.

Redditors are like sheep, but more stupid, and violent to boot.

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[–] **Leverpostei414** 23 points 2 days ago

Because it was. The women werent the journalist and they got almost all the flack

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[–] **AsstacularSpiderman** 22 points 2 days ago

Because the whole "ethics in games journalism" thing was a front.

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load more comments (30 replies)

[–] **threadpig** 38 points 2 days ago*

well, except that's not true at all. there was no evidence that any games journalists were slept with in order to secure a better review.

the common lie is that zoë quinn slept with nathan grayson to get a good review on depression quest. except nathan grayson never wrote a review for depression quest. quinn and grayson did have a relationship, but no review ever came of it.

"ethics in game journalism" was sanitized messaging that 4channers came up with in order to make their hate campaign against quinn and sarkeesian seem more palatable. it was all just misogyny, plain and simple.

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[–] **Sekretariatet** 32 points 3 days ago

Revisionism, while the five guys story was there and kicked things off /v/ was absolutely 100% full of misogynist horseshit from hour 1.

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load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **Leverpostei414** 22 points 2 days ago

No it wasn't. Most people don't even know the name of the journalist and the journalist isn't the person getting the main amount of criticism.

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[–] **MrMxyzptlk123** 17 points 3 days ago

Sweetie, that never actually happened. You were lied to.

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[–] **oysterme** 15 points 2 days ago

The leaked Burgers and Fries IRC chat gave away the game that it was 100% about harassing Zoe Quinn until she unalives herself and that “Ethics in Games Journalism” was a convenient narrative to get the most people on board. All you’re doing is admitting that you fell for it.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **Comprehensive_Pin565** 11 points 2 days ago

No, that was not a major part. That was a smokescreen.

Basically everything you said was wrong.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **Zexeos** 10 points 2 days ago

Imagine caring about journalism ethics while not being able to do a shred of research yourself, lol. Lmao, even.

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load more comments (1 reply)

load more comments (19 replies)

[–] [deleted] 3 days ago

[removed]

[–] **Acrobatic-Sense-126** 30 points 3 days ago

A lot of it really worsened the gaming ECONOMY, too. Like the quality of writing will surely vary, feminist or not. But microtransactions have actively gone worse but receives less hate over anything considered "woke". You'll have people dissing gachas and passes, but nothing to the level of sheer anger over what gamergate garnered.

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[–] **BoringEntropist** 22 points 3 days ago

It wasn't just the extreme right. Cooperations became "woke" in the 2010s to appear more progressive, as after the great financial crisis people became more skeptical of capitalism. They paid lip service to certain leftist ideas concerning minorities, while continued to lobby for less worker's rights, lower taxes for the rich and more deregulation.

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load more comments (14 replies)

[–] **Ambitious-Address671** 16 points 3 days ago

I like how every time this is talked about people conveniently forget to include Maxwell running reddit

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[–] **Forsaken-Jackfruit-1** 9 points 3 days ago

All social media has some rich weirdo controlling it in some form or another. At the end of the day it’s just like any other form of media and can be manipulated. That’s why it’s up to us as the consumers of media to be aware of this fact and not just take what we see and hear for granted.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (94 replies)

[–] **seriousbangs** 278 points 3 days ago

Jeffery Epstein kick-started gamergate.

Seriously, look it up.

It was never about "Ethics in games journalism", it was always a right wing pdf file backed psyop.

What's that old Gore Vidal quote about conspiracies?

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **OkMortgage6723** 118 points 3 days ago

> What's that old Gore Vidal quote about conspiracies?

Fuck if we know. Just tell us.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **AlarmedMarionberry81** 68 points 3 days ago

"Not a conspiracy theorist, but a conspiracy analyst" or something similar to that

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[–] **dotnetdotcom** 19 points 2 days ago

"pattern observer"?

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[–] **Choice_Pitch6822** 62 points 3 days ago

He didn't. Yes gamergate and 4chan where offhandedly mentioned in the files. No that doesn't actually had any baring on anything. Actually read the files man.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **Eerixall** 19 points 2 days ago

Yes he fucking did.
This is quite a good summary:
https://www.garbageday.email/p/here-s-how-epstein-broke-the-internet

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **Dogstile** 27 points 2 days ago

So it was attempted three years before they met, then again a year before they met, then again, and then settled for 5 years before randomly exploding?

That's a hell of a conspiracy.

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[–] **Extra_Horror6560** 19 points 2 days ago

you have to believe epstein had moot create pol for this conspiracy theory to work

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load more comments (6 replies)

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **OkPear1535** 33 points 2 days ago

> Seriously, look it up.

Okayyy looked it up and found...nothing? Are we just making shit up now? Calling people you don't like paedophiles is a tale as old as time

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **ThreeButtonBob** 20 points 2 days ago

The post you are replying to is basically just a karma shitpost.

Mention Epstein, somehow throw gamers in with him and talk about some conspiracy of the right... oh and just say "look it up" instead of any trusted sources = easy karma

reddit works like that i'm afraid.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (3 replies)

[–] **BadIdeaBobcat** 15 points 3 days ago

I think it's possible Epstein / Bannon and / or people like them heavily amplified this stuff, but it's a bit of a stretch to declare Epstein kickstarting it. He had a convo with Moot who made /pol shortly after, and as far as I'm aware, that's all we've got. Adam Baldwin coined the term "Gamer Gate" in an offhand tweet, and then everyone latched onto it like idiots.

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[–] **horatiobanz** 8 points 2 days ago

If Epstein mentioned the moon in his emails you'd claim he was behind the moon landings.

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load more comments (3 replies)

load more comments (9 replies)

[–] **shepard_pie** 174 points 3 days ago*

I thought she said some interesting things, some goofy things, and some stupid things. I read it because I saw some people talking about it and looked it up. I didn't agree with everything said, but she also put up some good points. I didn't watch the videos because they kind of annoyed me, I just read some transcripts.

After that real nothing burger, I forgot about it for years. I was somehow insulated from "gamergate." I heard the term and that was about it.

When I finally actually learned about it, it was one of the stupidest of the many, many stupid movements spawned by the internet. I cannot believe some of stuff I read. By the way, what is it about video games that causes some of the dumbest opinions to form?

Edit: the large amount of replies to this one comment proves my point lol. I'm not defending her takes, they were more wrong than right and even the good points were wrapped poorly. I'm saying that nothing in her mild and tepid videos required the responses they got.

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[–] **ThePowerfulWill** 84 points 3 days ago

Holy shit, a nuanced opinion. Great stuff.

Ya, thats the basics of the whole thing. "Person said thing that was kinda right, kinda wrong" -> "other people MASSIVELY overreacted to the wrong parts"

There legitimately were some issues with her talking points and behavior, but she also was correct about quite a few things. But NOTHING she did ever came close to deserving the absolute insanity that followed. Its like if one person cut in line a supermarket accidentally, so someone else burned the while building down as "justice"

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[–] **Ghost_Of_Malatesta** 31 points 2 days ago

> Person said thing that was kinda right, kinda wrong

It was the most milquetoast basic ass feminist critique applied to games, like basic "this game is treating the women characters as objects" level.

> There legitimately were some issues with her talking points and behavior

Like what? Be specific

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[–] **EonofAeon** 24 points 2 days ago

Lying about the content in video games and misrepresenting or falsifying context to suit her points. Also basically outright stealing videos and content from other creators, without credit (and the argument that its fair use is a legal defense, not a shield, so ultimately decision would be up to the creators + a jury if it came down to it. And some of the creators she used werent happy their content was used to lie about the games in question)

One of the biggest offenders was Hitman: she showed footage of killing civilians, especially women, and claimed the game actively rewarded you for it.

While the screen actively showed point penalties and warnings ***against*** civilian/non-target kills. There's more but I literally just got rudely woken up 20 minutes ago n couldn't fall asleep so...

(But her stance, at least that some games were *excessive* in how objectified the women had become, wasnt entirely wrong either. But human nature meant "if me/my stuff is criticized, even fairly, ook ook monkey brain defend")

I feel like theres other elements of her/her 'crusade' that ended up being revealed as less than copacetic but its 12 years ago and ultimately, theres more egregious people "on both sides" from that era so....

And nothing anyone did deserved bullying to suicide, harassment, doxxing, threats to parents, etc. or all the craziness people were subject to, so lets make that clear.

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[–] **Feckless** 11 points 2 days ago

The one I remember was about Hitman Absolution where her critique was that one level featured women in lingerie in the night club level and that you could kill them and posture their bodies. Which is true. However Hitman being a sandbox stealth murder game penalizes you for doing that and it is something you can do to any character. You can also strip down any male character to their boxers too.

Anita made it sound like Hitman is only about that. If I recall that correctly. But it has been years and I did not watch the video again.

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load more comments (4 replies)

load more comments (2 replies)

[–] **eebro** 30 points 3 days ago

I feel even this is a bit of cope. She was saying self-evident stuff you'd hear at any other critical feminist analysis. It wasn't new, it wasn't wrong, it was almost boring.

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[–] **rgiggs11** 36 points 2 days ago*

I watched a bit of it once. Yeah, it felt like that to me too. Anyone who's ever heard a "why is it always a prince, rescuing the princess?" analysis of fairy tales isn't going to find anything new. But this was apparently radical and controversial to people?

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[–] **MoonShadeOsu** 15 points 2 days ago*

Evidently there were factually wrong things in her videos that she also didn't correct later on, to my knowledge. Example: She showed gameplay from a Hitman game, claiming a notable gameplay element /goal in the game was the killing of innocent women (not talking about a target but civilians), showing a scene where the player actually gets punished by the game with negative points for killing a female civilian.

Seems minor but this actually completely misrepresents the point of the Hitman games.

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[–] **MBV-09-C** 9 points 2 days ago

Adding to this, she also showed footage from Watch_Dogs' trafficking auction sequence while talking about how women being sexualized and abused was glorified as a way to appeal to the male fantasy or something along those lines.

The entire point of the auction scene wasn't to make the player feel 'good' at all, it was played out dead serious, the protagonists audibly voice their disgust at the scene, a major plot point then becomes taking out the scumbags running the ring and it opens up a series of side missions you can do to free some of the trafficking victims afterwards. At no point does the game try to make you 'feel good' about seeing these women sexualized or brutalized, so it comes off as extremely tone-deaf that she included footage of that scene at all, making it feel like maybe the rest of her work had similar levels of insincerity.

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load more comments (5 replies)

load more comments (5 replies)

load more comments (42 replies)

[–] **AvatarofSleep** 37 points 3 days ago

I watched some videos after she got the huge kickstarter but before goonergoat. They weren't great. Not terrible, but...bland, with simplistic unnuanced takes.

I do not get why people had to be so fucking weird about it. If you don't like her, just don't engage. It's not fucking hard. I gave her a chance, didn't care for it, and fucked off.

And it's been like 14 years. Video games are still around. Fucking let go.

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[–] **FrostyNeckbeard** 31 points 3 days ago

Bruh im reading some of the comments in this thread and some people are still frothing at the mouth over her mild critiques.

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[–] **zb0t1** 8 points 2 days ago

I did engage with her content, and people are gonna hyper focus on the errors of analysis she made while overall the points she made still stand. There were some biases and heuristics mistakes of course, but it wasn't high level academic work either (which are filled with biases and heuristics errors too btw).

I see it as trying to burn down the whole planet over a few trees in one forest on an island causing issues. The disproportionate reaction itself is evidence at least that misogyny was and still is problematic lmao.

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load more comments (3 replies)

[–] **AlyssaurusWrecks** 21 points 3 days ago

i always like to point out, too, that anita's application of feminism to games was like. absolute "baby's first feminism conversation," at the time. she was newer to the field, and her work was an attempt to introduce the absolute basics of feminist thinking to gamers, and they went completely insane en mass. not to mention everything about zoe quinn was completely fabricated from whole cloth. i think the douchebag who made all of that up has a podcast now lol.

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[–] **HopefulTranslator577** 51 points 3 days ago

We now know, thanks to the Epstein files, that it was largely inflated as a cultural talking point to help elect Donald Trump.

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[–] **ThreeButtonBob** 12 points 2 days ago*

Care to link anything to corraborate your story? Maybe i missed something.

As far as i know Gamergate was mentioned in the Epstein files in a few random sentences but not in a conspiracy way like you are implying.

edit: looking at the "evidence" posted so far i think it's fair to say that you pulled that out of your ass

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[–] **viviennedolll** 26 points 3 days ago

And the funny thing is, modern games are in rough state but it's because of aggressive microtransactions, battle passes and unfinished releases not a YouTuber from 2014.

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load more comments (1 reply)

[–] [deleted] 3 days ago

[removed]

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[–] **Snoo20140** 22 points 3 days ago*

Close....

*She was a feminist grifter who created misandrist dog whistle content to push a narrative that anything less than the perception of female power was sexism. (Ex: NES Mario Bros was sexist). Then threatened developers with public lynching if they didn't hire her, which spawned current grift companies like Sweet Baby Inc, who are doing the same.

I believe the CEO of SBI said something along the lines of:

'if a company doesn't think they need ur services, threaten them with HR'. If anyone actually wants to know the quote I can find it. (Edit)Watch below for the actual quote, I was off slightly.

EDIT: Video of the quote - https://youtube.com/shorts/2HXJ6EZUArc

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[–] **gemdas** 84 points 3 days ago

[Citation needed]

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load more comments (23 replies)

[–] **DeadlyPear** 43 points 3 days ago

<image>

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[–] **MyOthrUsrnmIsABook** 30 points 3 days ago*

I don't remember that part of the videos. Is critiquing video games where the player is encouraged to perform graphic sexual violence against prostitutes in order to refill their health bar a "misandrist dog whistle"?

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[–] **yakityyakblahtemp** 11 points 3 days ago

I believe the quote was not about HR, but of pr backlash. As in, tell marketing that websites like Polygon and Kotaku will make articles about how your game is racist or sexist.

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[–] **AlarmedMarionberry81** 12 points 3 days ago

Post paid for by Steve Bannon and the Epstein estate.

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[–] **Snoo20140** 9 points 3 days ago

LOL. I mean, I'll take a paycheck....but not from them. No thanks. Weird how people who hear facts that go against their ideology simply say the most random shit.

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[–] **Comprehensive_Pin565** 10 points 2 days ago

Wow... you sound worse than her.

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[–] **MajorRandomMan** 11 points 3 days ago

I love it when abusers cite people speaking up for themselves as if it's a valid reason to be more abusive

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[–] **Ok_Translator_8043** 1995 points 3 days ago*

What gets forgotten a lot here is she was pretty much just a grifter. Like, I don't think she was wrong about sexism being in games but she ran gofundmes to buy games and then was caught screen capping other people's gameplay and using it in her videos. If you ever watched those videos, she doesn't exactly say anything profound either. IIRC she never finished her video series that she raised a ton of money to make

She went on to be a "consultant" on some games and was hired by a lot of companies to give speech's and talks. She found a niche market and exploited it.

Edit: thanks for all the responses and votes. You guys reminded me she was more of a grifter than I remembered when she was getting stuff flat out wrong like with the Hitman stripper club level. That's the kind of mistake you make though when you aren't actually playing any of the games and just stealing clips off other people's YouTube videos.

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[–] **OmNommerSupreme** 1906 points 3 days ago*

She hated BAYONETTA. Bayonetta 1 is one of the most feminist pieces of media I've ever seen. IN A GOOD WAY. Like, actual feminist themes calling out the religious bullshit ingrained into so many Western cultures and holding society back instead of just screaming "girls rule boys drool" at the top of your lungs. She's like a physical embodiment of the pagan sacred feminine back for revenge. Female sexuality has been demonized by the Abrahamic religions and Bayonetta hunts Abrahamic-style angels. The order that betrayed her fellow witches, the Lumen Sages, are THE, literal-ass, Patriarchy, I don't know how much more on the nose she needed it to be.

Also she classified SAMUS MOTHERFUCKING ARAN as a "fighting fucktoy". Samus's armor, that she's in for 99.9% of the time in the Metroid games, not only covers her entire body, but IS ONE OF THE MOST ICONIC SUITS OF ARMOR IN VIDEO GAME HISTORY. Seeing Samus outside of her armor has been a callback to the initial secret ending that revealed she was a woman. As a gender nonconforming little girl playing Super Smash Bros Melee, I was over the damn MOON to find out Samus is a woman; it was HUGE for me. And Metroid Dread and its popularity has made Anita's takes age like milk.

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[–] **ChriSaito** 739 points 3 days ago

This is where I'm at. I can get behind video games being more welcoming to women, even today. Her critiques were absolute garbage and had little value. She sucked because she didn't know what she was talking about, not because she wanted video games to be less sexist.

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[–] **PUNCH-WAS-SERVED** 296 points 3 days ago

She is a liar. Plain and simple.

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[–] **Ravenloff** 177 points 3 days ago

It wasn't that she's a bad person (I think she probably is) or that she had nothing of value to add, but she was celebrated for having nothing to add. That's what kills me, lol. Seemingly intelligent adults, clapping at her like trained seals.

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[–] **Netheral** 69 points 2 days ago

It's the pizzacake model of business. The content itself is bland, not even all that offensive or remarkable. But they take any criticism and turn it into a gender war thing and drum up an audience of white knights. Any criticism later on automatically becomes sexist because that's the victim they've built themselves up to be.

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[–] **DeadBodyCascade** 77 points 3 days ago

It's almost like the gamer gaters had some valid critiques of people like Anita, because honestly she and others around her at the time were, and probably still are awful, but they just went way too overboard and ended up legitimizing them and giving them their careers.

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[–] **weed0monkey** 68 points 3 days ago

The problem as with most things, gamergate was way overblown and used to generalise the entire medium.

A minority of people who criticsed the likes of Anita went way too far and went overboard. Since people can't parse nuance whatever, the whole very valid critique was deligitamised.

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[–] **ITinnedUrMumLastNigh** 43 points 3 days ago

GG started out as a battle between gamers and game journalists. Of course the journalists had support of their platforms and later morr media.

What gave people like Anita their careers was being on the narrative controlling side

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[–] **Ragnarok_619** 13 points 2 days ago

You can see it in this post itself. Aside from this thread which is calling out Anita, every other thread is supporting her.

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[–] **Dogstile** 15 points 2 days ago

Nah, Journo's just had bigger reach. I still remember all the top publications publishing the same "gamers are sexist losers" article on the same day. Then the emails between them all planning on releasing stuff at the same time came out.

Came after their core readerbase, then were surprised that generalising the core readerbase made them angry.

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[–] **cficare** 59 points 3 days ago*

Yeah, she was a tourist and - I guess you could say - a culture vulture. And then she tried to take it to the next level and actually influence the medium. Yeah, fuck that trash. A more genuine person coulda done it and I wouldnt have minded.

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[–] **Silvernauter** 55 points 2 days ago

She also had other bad takes like saying that Hitman encouraged you to kill women in a stipclub (the mission was to kill the boss of the stripclub, which was a man, and theoretically you *could* kill women there...along with everybody else...but the game actively disincentivizes you to do so because killing non targets negatively affects your grading) and the like, but yeah, Samus and bayonetta were definitely the standout dumbest (Samus especially; besides maybe in zero mission and in super smash where the zero suit version is selectable, 99% of the time she is in full body armor that completely obscures her gender)

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[–] **ParkingSpot8089** 20 points 2 days ago

This woman's takes were so bad and for some reason so widely supported by the mainstream media she singlehandedly butterfly effected the rise of Trump and MAGA. She was a literal harbinger of doom.

And yes im blaming HER not gamers cause im convinced she intended to ruin gaming forever.

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[–] **CauliflowerSuper3152** 102 points 3 days ago

Dude there are hundreds if not thousands of bad takes on the internet, no one cares. The point was how much attention her bad takes got, like they mattered AT ALL.

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[–] **ignatiusOfCrayloa** 138 points 3 days ago

She got positive attention from mainstream press and was hired to consult for games. She was a very successful and influential grifter.

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[–] **Successful_Layer2619** 51 points 3 days ago

Yeah, but most of the bad takes on the internet don't put you in front of the united nations

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[–] **TheCroaker** 31 points 2 days ago

Dude she was on like the news, she showed up on the colbert report to talk about how sexist dragon age origins was

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[–] **Aniki_Simpson** 15 points 2 days ago

She spoke in front of congress, the UN, and was an advisor for video games companies. I'm pretty sure the industry was taking her seriously.

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[–] **Walter_ODim_19** 10 points 2 days ago

She got an Australian retailer to stop selling GTA5 iirc

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[–] **Ganadote** 67 points 3 days ago

Also, the "Samus in a bikini" endings wasn't to sexualize her, but to reveal that you were playing as a woman the entire time, which was unheard of at the time.

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[–] **Squarehip123** 23 points 2 days ago

Aye the only way I can tell someone is a woman is if they're wearing a bikini

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[–] **CMDR-TealZebra** 49 points 2 days ago

At that pixel scale? Yeah pretty much

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[–] **TYGeelo** 14 points 2 days ago

To be fair, it makes sense to wear minimum clothes under body armor like that, imagine how hot it must be in there!

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[–] **Saad888** 12 points 2 days ago

What? They were 100% to sexualize her. Her being revealed as a woman on any basic clear shows that you were playing a woman, then making her more scantily clad based off of how fast you beat the game is 100% sexualization

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[–] **Thalilalala** 12 points 2 days ago

<image>

Those pixels are indeed very arousing

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[–] **Gwtheyrn** 44 points 3 days ago

She fell into the fallacy that female sexuality in media = female sexualization and exploitation.

Of course the ultimate irony is that feminists aren't the ones trying to take away actual porn games. It's right-wing religious ideologues in charge of payment processing systems.

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[–] **Random_Ware** 30 points 3 days ago

The samus aran take is what got me to dislike her. I remember playing zero mission as a kid not knowing anything about metroid to find out she's a girl after killing the mother brain to then have to stealthily infiltrate the space pirate ship was incredibly cool and badass to me. Almost 100% that back then but couldn't figure out shine sparking without internet. Fuck that one energy tank in brimstar near the weird centipede boss requiring a shine spark chain.

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[–] **Mobwmwm** 20 points 3 days ago

Also funny because imo, the fan service they gave Bayonetta seems more to me for females than males. She looks more like my aunty or a late aged librarian than a porn star or anime waifu or something lol

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[–] **WalkAffectionate2683** 28 points 3 days ago

Hum, while I can agree with some takes.

She is definitely made to appeal men. Sure it can for some women, but that is a game made by men for men.

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[–] **JustASrSWE** 28 points 3 days ago

I agree that she appeals to men, but her character design was literally made by a woman
https://www.platinumgames.com/official-blog/article/1278

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[–] **ThePieKing-** 10 points 2 days ago

me when I just lie on the internet with 100% confidence

<image>

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[–] **Bluepaint57** 14 points 3 days ago*

She has giant boobs and ass in a skin tight latex suit, and is conventionally attractive. Which part interests woman more than men haha

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[–] **CaptChair** 118 points 3 days ago

This is the answer. This is why I dislike her. She can have whatever opinion she wants, and voice it, idk. But when you pretend to fight for justice just as a ruse to help yourself, I think you're fucking low.

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[–] **Veutifuljoe_0** 83 points 3 days ago

The issue with her critique’s on games was that they were almost always surface level stuff, alongside massively overblowing minor things like the hitman example where you “can” kill the dancers, but it’s not something the game expects you to do nor rewards you for it. Good faith criticism of how women are depicted in games exists, it’s just that Anita Sarkesian wasn’t someone providing said criticism

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[–] **Bi_disaster_ohno** 58 points 3 days ago

To add to the Hitman, she frequently conflates the ability to do something in a game with the game encouraging that action. She claims that Hitman allows you to kill the dancers makes the leap in logic that encourages and rewards players for doing so. But even in the footage she's using to demonstrate the game "rewarding" players for killing the dancers, you can actually see that the action negativeily impacts the players score.

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[–] **TisIChenoir** 38 points 3 days ago

Didn't she also said "the almost naked bodies of the dancers are put there so the male player can play with them as they wish" or some shit like that?

I remember having watched this segment and fthe whole argument around it being so absurd it was anguishing to listen to.

I think a lot of gamers had a problem with her because she was basically a nobody who knew nothing about the media, had incredibly biased and stupid takes, and who ended up failing upward everytime while making the whole media look bad.

Doesn't excuse the death threats and online harassement, but still, that's basically like seeing the brain-damaged school bully being celebrated and offered your dream job for being a bully...

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[–] **LordOuranos** 82 points 3 days ago

Nah, she was wrong about the sexism too. Her examples of videogame sexism were annihilated back in the day for being shitty and misconstrued. It was a grift through and through

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[–] **Neat-Committee-417** 28 points 2 days ago

There were a few of them that were pretty much just lies too. Or had context omissions that completely changed or negated what she said.

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[–] **Gold_Assumption_1905** 28 points 2 days ago

Remember when she had some takes on tv and movies complaining that an episode of the mandalorian didnt have a single woman in it, until people very quickly pointed out plenty of women was in the episode and had talking rolls they was just under helmets because you know mandalorians

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[–] **m0nk37** 40 points 3 days ago

End thread.

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[–] **Akira_116** 29 points 3 days ago

I seen one of her videos where she was complaining you could kill female strippers in a strip club.. completely ignoring that you could also kill male strippers in the same strip club. Im not saying some of her arguments arent valid, more that she chose misleading information as the basis for some of her arguments.

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[–] **Clickclacktheblueguy** 27 points 3 days ago*

There were times in college (namely my literary criticism class) where I had to write an essay but I realized too late that the text didn’t have enough evidence to support my thesis statement and it was too late to do any kind of course correction. My only recourse was to cherry pick exaggerated evidence out of context.

When I watched an Anita Sarkeesian video, that is the exact vibe she gave off. Like, for example, her Ms. Male Character video was broadly correct in a sense that yes, just slapping a bow on Pac Man is bad female representation, but the fact that most of her examples were either decades old or incredibly obscure undermined her point.

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[–] **Miserable-Act-9896** 21 points 3 days ago

Also people like to defend her with the "it's been so long now let it go" card like she isn't still around doing exactly what she's been doing since 2012

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[–] **PatienceHero** 17 points 3 days ago

Yeah - A lot of people frequently forget that grifting is just as possible on the left wing as the right. It just helps that right wing thought is already frequently soulless and unethical, so it's more frequent there.

That being said, I just think it's hilarious that Gamergaters got mad at her for grifting wrapped with fairly innocuous opinions, so they turned around and threw all their money and time into a BIGGER grift.

...One that convinced them a single indie dev (potentially) sleeping with a single game magazine editor was the height of unethical games journalism, and not, you know, *AAA devs flying journalists on private helicopters to Vegas parties and luxury suites to collect swag bags and play 15 minute, extensively-guided plauthroughs of their games.*

Sorry, did I say hilarious? I meant violently depressing. Like, solid work all around, everyone. REAL glad my favorite hobby went mainstream right about now, let me tell ya.

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[–] **wereplant** 17 points 3 days ago

> She went on to be a “consultant” on some games and was hired by a lot of companies to give speech’s and talks. She found a niche market and exploited it.

This was the thing that made me remember her. First time I paid attention to her was when I heard she was hired as a consultant on a sequel to make sure it was good.

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[–] **John_Whimsicott** 16 points 2 days ago

The gamer from mars has probably the best video about her, although it's long.

I firmly believe she intentionally egged on her haters because the outrage made her incredibly popular. She has a masters degree in Com studies. She knew exactly what to say to piss people off, and their outrage drew more attention and free publicity to her work. She knew how to identify and audience and how to shape a message to elicit specific reactions. I don't think she intended or expected such a strong reaction, but she leaned into it hard.

The truth of the matter is that her analysis of most games was surface level at best and disingenuous at worst. Her review of the hitman games said that violence against women was a core ethos of the game play because you can kill women. But she completely ignores the fact that you can do this to men too, and the game punishes you for doing this.

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[–] **Xaphnir** 10 points 3 days ago

Yep. Didn't deserve the level of hate she got, but her critiques were stupid and kinda rage-baity. The enemy of my enemy is not necessarily my friend.

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[–] **DreistTheInferno** 7 points 3 days ago

I always said that I agree with her points, but the way she said things hurt the cause because she made her points SO TERRIBLY while being such a grifter, stealing peoples art while making a ton of money. Her criticisms were weakly made and had notable flaws.

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[–] **RealFakeNurse** 386 points 3 days ago

Basically she wasn’t the original target of the whole gamergate thing, but she latched onto it and made a job out of being the sort of public face of antagonizing/being victimized by gamergate.

She’s one of the first to pull off the antagonizing nerds/monetizing victimhood cycle grifts really well and spun it into a consulting email job where she provides input to game developers, generally to the chagrin of gamers.

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[–] **No-Cause6559** 87 points 3 days ago

Damn some one that actually knows

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[–] **RealFakeNurse** 36 points 3 days ago

Yeah, people want to act like she’s literally satan or that she single-handedly made games safe for women, but really she’s just another lady with an email job.

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[–] **xxzephyrxx** 38 points 2 days ago

She's a grifter.

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[–] **Wazula23** 16 points 2 days ago

> Basically she wasn't the original target of the whole gamergate thing, but she latched onto it and made a job out of being the sort of public face of antagonizing/being victimized by gamergate.

Exact opposite. She was doing her own thing and then Gamergate happened and lumped her in.

It's amazing this disinformation is still so effective ten years later. Steve Bannon really did a number on y'all.

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[–] **Hairy-Love2571** 149 points 3 days ago

OP, you already got the gamergate thing. Go read some news articles and Wikipedia pages on it, and you'll be satisfied.

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[–] **DarthGiorgi** 29 points 2 days ago

Wikipeadia is not reliable for GamerGate history, it's extremely biased towards one side..

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[–] **thundergu** 71 points 2 days ago

You cant say this without providing info about what side you're talking about

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[–] **BriscoCounty-Sr** 35 points 2 days ago

They're just mad that Epstein created their entire world view

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[–] **I_ONLY_CATCH_DONKEYS** 9 points 2 days ago

It's hilarious people actually believe this

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[–] **Quirky-Ad-2405** 15 points 2 days ago

What do you mean by hilarious? There is clear evidence the right wing grifter groups that came out of this were manipulated by Epstein and 4chan owners

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load more comments (25 replies)

[–] **WakeUp004** 14 points 2 days ago

What, does it not include the part where Zoe Quinn's ex lied?

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load more comments (18 replies)

load more comments (22 replies)

[–] **lordnaarghul** 109 points 3 days ago

Chris here. Anita Sarkeesian was a commentator who offered critiques on game design that were then criticized in online culture war spaces. However her critiques were very pedestrian and largely uninteresting, but because it circles around these spaces so much, it gave her outsized influence which she then leveraged to try and build a brand, and do a number of crowdfunded ventures. Had the culture warriors ignored her, she would likely have gone down as a crank. As soon as the culture warriors stopped paying attention to her, her audience, money, and influence dried up pretty quickly.

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[–] **WakeUp004** 37 points 2 days ago

That's a weird way to downplay all the death/rape/violent threats towards her.

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[–] **Dogstile** 84 points 2 days ago

Just because people are complete cunts doesn't mean that her critiques were any good.

I don't support anyone sending threats, but I still think her takes were either basic or flat out wrong (see hitman, bayonetta, metroid)

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[–] **ObliviLeon** 40 points 2 days ago

If a million people dislike your takes and 5 people decide to be absolute degenerates and make threats, you disregard what the rest are saying?

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[–] **JWILLIAM00** 13 points 2 days ago

It also can't be forgotten that for any given online threat, there's a non-zero chance that they are sent from an alt-email from someone who actually supports the person (or from themselves).

That's why even when death threats come up, it's best to see if an investigation actually finds a perpetrator.

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[–] **ObliviLeon** 7 points 2 days ago

Yes, I really hate the modern day "I've received death threats." Because if even 1% disagree with you, that's still 1 person out of 100. And there will always be people crazy enough, weird enough, trolley enough on any side/political party to send despicable messages. And then you just paint the whole group as such. You even see it with celebrities where they'll complain they're getting so much hate when they've mostly received support in the comments.

And that doesn't even get into your possibility of someone just trying to further their own agenda.

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load more comments (3 replies)

[–] **Kingkary** 13 points 2 days ago

I hate the constant excuse from famous people whenever they get criticized they always "we are receiving death so we can't be wrong" and it's some Indian bot account that can't even spell beheading right. It's bullshit

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[–] **whiskyspacecadet** 10 points 2 days ago

Except that there were multiple of those threats that were investigated and found to be baseless and likely invented by Sarkeesian herself.

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[–] **TheSpacePopinjay** 20 points 2 days ago

The critiques were also lies that evidenced that she hadn't even played the games despite positioning herself as an authoritative academic beyond criticism as an equal.

As demonstrated by her critics to displayed gameplay that showed that the things she said were utter lies about what the actual game mechanics were and what occurred in the games.

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[–] **Ironmasked-Kraken** 81 points 3 days ago

Tbh I'm not sure. I think she like used to review games but didn't actually play them. I remember seeing a clip that was so dumb with her cherry picking and either wilingly ignoring or not realising stuff right in front of her painting afalse picture. Had me absolutely dismiss anything from her.

Then apparently some people started going after her too hard and then other people started defending her and yadda yadda yadda.

Later it turned out she is a grifter who hit jackpot and got a posse defending her with no real contribution to anything but herself. She also has a history of scamming people and owes former employees money and wages.

But her supporters ignore that cause feminism or something

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[–] **Designer_Repair4930** 38 points 3 days ago*

I think I remember the clip you're talking about. It's from Hitman Absolution and you're sneaking through a strip club to kill the evil strip club owner or something. If you want to kill the strippers you can, but it's a stealth game so it punishes you. I remember Anita made a video claiming the game "rewards players for murdering innocent women and treating their lifeless bodies like objects for sexual gratification" or some nonsense like that.

Edit: Found the clip

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[–] **Additional_Idea8690** 19 points 2 days ago

Jesus, what a godawful clip, the best display of media illiteracy ever conceived by a human.

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load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **layered_dinge** 43 points 3 days ago

She said mario is misogynist because he rescues peach

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[–] **WakeUp004** 19 points 2 days ago

Citation needed.

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[–] **WittyFix6553** 13 points 3 days ago

Well, I can basically guarantee she didn’t say this.

Find me this quote and let’s analyze it together.

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[–] **morknox** 24 points 2 days ago

I don't think she said directly that mario was sexist. But she said mario used a sexist trope; damsel in distress.

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[–] **AlsoAnarchism** 19 points 2 days ago

And she would be very much correct about that lol

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[–] **morknox** 13 points 2 days ago

Ok, but then what does that mean going forwards? Nobody can make any movie/game/book about a hero saving a woman? Or whats the goal of saying it is sexist?

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[–] **exorcissy72** 25 points 2 days ago

Is this your first time encountering cultural criticism? Pointing out that a trope is sexist isn’t an attack per se on the piece of media in question. It’s investigating the culture that created the trope, why it’s popular etc…

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[–] **AlsoAnarchism** 17 points 2 days ago

Oh no you absolutely can do that.

I feel it's important to clarify here.

The "Damsel in distress"-Trope is about a women being saved by a man, and doing *little to nothing else.* The problem is about *reducing* women to helpless individuals, with no agenda or personality beyond: please, please save me honorable knight!

You can absolutely still make, and consume media that features a man saving a woman, there's nothing wrong with that.

Just like, be aware of that I guess?

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[–] **goldenseducer** 37 points 3 days ago

Oh no. I'm not explaining this again. Last time I had like 400 notifications from all the capital G gamers before the thread got locked. Never again.

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[–] **GooRedSpeakers** 31 points 3 days ago

That's basically it. She was one of the people the first "Gamergate" happened around. The OP in that Twitter post is still mad about Gamergate.

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[–] **mlopes** 18 points 2 days ago

Looking at the replies to this post, a lot of them still are, and coming out of the woodwork.

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[–] **Enorats** 24 points 3 days ago

She was a "critic" who focused on feminist issues, and one who video game publishers ended up listening to. This gave her a lot of sway behind the scenes because she was (and still is) a consultant who would basically come in and tell developers all the boxes they needed to check to make games the right way. Because the people paying the bills wanted her input listened to, developers were basically forced to do it.

Suffice to say, she (and others like her) are responsible for a lot of the more negative aspects of modern games. How much is really attributable to her specifically is debatable, but she's something of a popular target because she was among the first and was a bit of a prominent figurehead for the movement.

There's no real joke here, aside from the fact that the people with the money felt the need to push political ideologies and beliefs into every aspect of culture they possibly could, even when it was to the detriment of their product.

And they're still doing it to this day in ways both small and large. Just look at the Assassin's Creed Black Flag remake. The ship in the original game had a topless figurehead - the remake is censored.

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[–] **WoodpeckerHead8789** 21 points 2 days ago

She's responsible for micro transactions and live service trash? She fires developers to focus on AI? She waged war on physical media and fought against the concept of ownership? Is she responsible for checklist sandbox design, perhaps? Day one patches that don't solve all the crashes?

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[–] **xEsteemed** 20 points 2 days ago

Nice strawmanning bro

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load more comments (19 replies)

load more comments (5 replies)

load more comments (10 replies)

[–] **twdnewh** 22 points 3 days ago

Isn't this the lady who called Samus a fucktoy? I recall she also stole people's gameplay footage and passed it off as her own.

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[–] **joetotheg** 12 points 2 days ago

Yeah she definitely deserves some level of criticism but not all the death and rape threats and other abuse she received. When the dust settled from this situation it mostly reflected poorly on gamers

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[–] **BrokenHero408** 22 points 3 days ago

Wasn't this broad a grifter though?

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[–] **Scanner-** 12 points 2 days ago

Yes

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[–] **viviennedolll** 20 points 3 days ago

Imagine thinking a YouTube video essay from 2014 had the dark magic required to permanently ruin en entire $200 billion global industry.

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[–] **Shauiluak** 22 points 3 days ago

Didn't she also basically steal a bunch of money and fuck off?

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[–] **ominous_squirrel** 15 points 3 days ago

No. Feminist Frequency published 21 videos on gaming tropes

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[–] **Elegant-End-1372** 23 points 2 days ago

She didn’t even get close to finishing the series she was funded to make. It’s 12 years later, the series is not done, and she didn’t even play the games for the ones she did do. She just made it up

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[–] **She_kicked_a_dragon** 15 points 3 days ago

You know this gets posted on here on a weekly basis and I don't really understand how it doesn't get taken down because it's not a joke and it seems like a pretty simple thing to research yourself

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[–] **WittyFix6553** 14 points 3 days ago

Gotta rile up the young white men any way we can, there’s an election coming up.

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[–] **Battle_Axe_Jax** 13 points 3 days ago

Long story short Anita made cogent critiques of gaming as a culture and an industry and that lead to Donald trump getting elected.

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[–] **Gooseberree** 17 points 3 days ago

She didn’t. Gamers™ ruined gaming.

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[–] **Acceptable_Hunt_1748** 16 points 3 days ago

She started a video series on female representation in gaming. She started the project as someone who had very little gaming experience, openly so, but did play a lot of games before making her videos. A vocal minority of gamers heavily criticized her, insisting there was nothing sexist about video games while simultaneously saying game developers should keep pandering to a male audience.

It should be noted that Epstein was found to have recommended to people on the far right that this video game argument could help radicalize people and bring them farther right. There was an undercurrent of white supremacism, pro capitalism, homophobia, etc in the movement. They also kept accusing games they didn't like of being leftist propaganda even though the gaming industry is dominated by massive corporations.

In fact I would say most issues with the gaming industry, and there are lots of issues, come from capitalism. Micro transactions, pay to win, buggy releases, mass firing, death march development, rising price and lowering of quality... All profit driven. But Anita skarkesian haters blame unattractive women, trans/gay representation, and other form of diversity.

I highly recommend watching some old hbomber guy videos on the topic. He really highlights how pathetic these people while tearing down their arguments. Shaun more recently did a video on one of the few guys still fighting this gender war and that's also worth a watch.

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[–] **PUNCH-WAS-SERVED** 12 points 3 days ago

Bruh, way to write a lot of words to justify her being a damn fraud. She can't have it both ways. I have heard words come directly from her mouth where she said she was a long-time gamer and then she also claimed she wasn't that into gaming. Like, that can't fucking both be true at the same time.

Then she got exposed even further when her "boyfriend" stopped working on her videos, and then her lousy editing and argumentation skills got further exposed. You are trying to defend a con artist. Congrats.

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[–] **WakeUp004** 17 points 2 days ago

She said she didn’t consider herself a “gamer” in the same vein as the people who called themselves gamers while also saying they wanted to brutally rape her and murder her.

And yeah, in her shoes I’d have a hard time saying I’m in that same group either.

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load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **AbsurdRedundant** 12 points 3 days ago*

Anita Sarkeesian was attracted a lot of attention with her long running series of articles and videos critiquing video games using academic feminist thought.

She did not start GamerGate. She was not the trigger for GamerGate. But boy did she piss off a lot of people.

But the “joke” here is that she triggered a lot of people then, and even today, some people blame her for everything they don’t like about the past 10+ years of video games.

So it’s really just a “u triggered bro?” meme.

Anyway, I need another martini.

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[–] **Penjamini** 11 points 3 days ago

Gamergate was 12 years ago…. I’m so fucking old

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[–] **Horror-Handle2793** 9 points 3 days ago

Given everything we've seen since then, and the literal implosion of not only the AAA game industry itself but also the hardware industry around gaming to the point where gaming is literally becoming a luxury hobby, and that ALL of this was caused entirely by corporate greed, the "feminists are ruining games" arugment sure aged poorly.

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[–] **ominous_squirrel** 9 points 3 days ago

Honestly, the through line of gamers and 4channers being recruited into helping Donald Trump get elected, Trump’s deregulation around cryptocurrency and AI driving up hardware shortages and Trump’s weird obsession with tariff taxation philosophy from the 1800s and its not unreasonable to argue that Gamergaters destroyed the gaming hardware market all by themselves

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